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IDENTICAL LETTERS DATED 26 OCTOBER 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that violations of Iraq's airspace by United States and British aircraft based in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey continued between 16 and 23 October 1999 and that the aircraft in question engaged in acts of aggression, reconnaissance activities and acts of provocation, as set forth in the annex hereto.

You are requested to intervene with the United States, the United Kingdom and the countries that provide the facilities for these acts of aggression, namely Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey, with a view to bringing a halt to actions that, as flagrant violations of the Charter of the United Nations and of international law, pose a threat to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Iraq.

These actions are continuing to bring death and injury to hundreds of civilians and to cause serious damage to private and public property. The logistic support that Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey provide to the United States and British forces makes them key partners in the aggression being committed against Iraq, so that they share international responsibility for the consequences of these actions. The Republic of Iraq affirms its right to seek lawful compensation for the damage being inflicted on its people by these same actions.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. HASAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Violations by United States and British aircraft and damage caused, 16-23 October 1999

1. In the northern region 32 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 12,000 metres over the following cities and towns: Dohuk, Amadiyah, Tall Afar, Irbil, Zakho, Sinjar, Aqrah, Mosul, Rawanduz and Ayn Zalah.

2. In the southern region 446 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 9,000 to 13,000 metres over the following Iraqi cities and towns: Nasiriyah, Samawah, Basrah, Amarah, Artawi, Jalibah, Salman, Shaykh Sa'd, Hashimiyah, Kut, Karbala', Razzazah, Rifa'i, Ushbayjah, Shinafiyah, Hayy, Qal'at Salih, Lasaf, Afak, Rumaythah, Taqtaqanah, Diwaniyah, Diwaniyah South, Najaf, Shatrah, Busayyah, Qurnah and Ali al-Sharqi.

3. At 1340 hours on 16 October 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-18 and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 32 missions, 26 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 6 from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Diwaniyah, Najaf, Kut, Samawah, Ali al-Sharqi, Nasiriyah, Salman, Amarah, Basrah, Jalibah and Busayyah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1510 hours, drove them off.

4. At 1030 hours on 16 October 1999 United States and British F-14 and F-15 aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 14 missions from Turkish airspace, were supported from there by an AWACS command and control aircraft and overflew the Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Aqrah, Amadiyah and Zakho areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1335 hours, drove them off.

5. At 1035 hours on 17 October 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 18 missions, were supported from inside Turkish airspace by an AWACS aircraft and overflew the Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Aqrah, Tall Afar, Amadiyah and Zakho areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1335 hours, drove them off.

6. At 0900 hours on 17 October 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16 and F-18 aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 70 missions, 58 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 12 from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Nasiriyah, Samawah, Salman, Qurnah, Amarah, Jalibah, Diwaniyah, Karbala', Razzazah, Qal'at Salih, Najaf and Busayyah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1200 hours, drove them off.

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7. At 1055 hours on 18 October 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 18 missions, were supported by an AWACS aircraft from inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Aqrah, Tall Afar, Amadiyah, Zakho, Rawanduz and Sinjar areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1355 hours, drove them off.

8. At 0830 hours on 18 October 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 66 missions, 34 of them from Saudi territory and 32 from Kuwaiti territory, and were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft and an E-2C aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Artawi, Salman, Nasiriyah, Shinafiayah, Rifa'i, Diwaniyah South, Samawah, Nu'maniyah, Qurnah, Qal'at Salih, Basrah, Amarah and Ushbayjah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1540 hours, drove them off.

9. At 1100 hours on 19 October 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 18 missions from Turkish airspace, were supported from there by an AWACS command and control aircraft and overflew the Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Amadiyah, Ayn Zalah and Zakho areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1405 hours, drove them off.

10. At 1035 hours on 19 October 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 96 missions, 70 of them from Saudi territory and 26 from Kuwaiti territory, and were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and an E-2C aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Nasiriyah, Salman, Basrah, Jalibah, Samawah, Amarah, Artawi, Qurnah and Busayyah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1740 hours, drove them off.

11. At 0842 hours on 20 October 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 58 missions, 44 of them from Saudi territory and 14 from Kuwaiti territory, and were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace. They overflew the Nasiriyah, Shatrah, Hashimiyah, Hayy, Shinafiyah, Najaf, Rifa'i, Qal'at Salih, Qurnah, Artawi, Salman, Ushbayjah, Lasaf, Taqtaqanah South and Busayyah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1112 hours, drove them off.

12. At 1205 hours on 22 October 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 44 missions, 18 of them from Saudi territory and 26 from Kuwaiti territory, and were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and an E-2C aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew

the Diwaniyah, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Salman, Jalibah, Artawi, Amarah, Basrah, Qal'at Salih and Busayyah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1320 hours, drove them off.

13. At 0835 hours on 23 October 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-18 and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 80 missions, 66 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 14 from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Samawah, Salman, Rumaythah, Diwaniyah, Lasaf, Shinafiyah, Ushbayjah, Jalibah, Nasiriyah, Busayyah, Qal'at Salih, Rifa'i, Qurnah, Hayy, Shaykh Sa'd and Afak areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1125 hours, drove them off.

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-fourth session
Agenda items 63 and 90
QUESTION OF CYPRUS
COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE WHOLE
QUESTION OF PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS
IN ALL THEIR ASPECTS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-fourth year

Letter dated 26 October 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 26 October 1999, addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Aytuğ Plümer, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 63 and 90, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Volkan VURAL
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 26 October 1999 from Mr. Aytuğ Plümer addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to the statement made by the Greek Cypriot representative at the meeting of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) held on 20 October 1999 under agenda item 90 (Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects). The statement in question contains allegations that distort the realities of Cyprus. Since I am denied the right to speak in the said Committee owing to the usurpation by the Greek Cypriot side of the title of the "Government of Cyprus", I am compelled to set the record straight in writing.

The Greek Cypriot representative claims that the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) was established in 1964 following a "recourse in the Security Council by Cyprus against Turkey", giving the wrong impression that it was Turkey, rather than the Greek Cypriot administration itself, which initiated the Cyprus problem in December 1963. The truth is that UNFICYP was established and dispatched to the island under Security Council resolution 186 (1964) of 4 March 1964, in order to prevent the wholesale indiscriminate killing of Turkish Cypriots throughout the island by heavily armed Greek Cypriot elements. Hundreds of defenceless Turkish Cypriots fell victim to Greek Cypriot atrocities and one fourth of the total population were driven out of their homes and villages which were razed to the ground.

The Greek Cypriot representative refers to the "1974 invasion and the forcible division" and "the continued military occupation" of the island. There is no mention that on 15 July 1974 Greece and its collaborators on the island staged a bloody coup d'état in Cyprus aimed at forcibly annexing Cyprus to Greece. In the face of the imminent danger posed against the Turkish Cypriot people, Turkey had no alternative but to exercise its rights and obligations set out by the 1960 Treaty of Guarantee, and intervened on 20 July 1974. This action was a legitimate intervention that averted the colonization of the island by Greece and prevented the massacre of Turkish Cypriots. Turkey's military presence on the island is an indispensable and effective guard against the Greek-Greek Cypriot aggressive designs given the bitter experiences of the period 1963-1974.

I would like to emphasize that it was the Greek Cypriot armed onslaught in December 1963 against the Turkish Cypriots and the binational order that led to the division of the island when the Turkish Cypriots were forced to live in enclaves, deprived of all basic necessities and fundamental human rights, for 11 years prior to the legal Turkish intervention of 1974.

If the solution of the Cyprus issue has eluded us for many decades, the reasons should be sought at the root of the problem. The lesson to be drawn from the Cyprus peacekeeping effort is that peacemaking is not possible when one of the parties to the dispute usurps the seat of government and uses it as a means of persecuting its former partner. As long as such illegal actions are condoned by the international community the usurper regime will attempt to

consolidate its illegal status rather than respecting the sovereign equality and even the existence of the very side it had sought to eliminate in the first place. So far, peacemaking efforts in Cyprus have not yielded any results precisely because the two sides in Cyprus have not been treated equally and fairly, thus enabling one of the sides to carry out unilateral actions effectively destroying all the parameters of a solution which had emerged over the years within the framework of the Secretary-General's mission of good offices.

The repeated allegations made by the Greek Cypriot side demonstrate that it is not prepared to acknowledge the existence of two separate States which will constitute the framework of a new partnership based on the sovereign equality of the two sides in Cyprus. Those parties interested in a peaceful resolution must accord equal treatment to the two States in Cyprus, if ever the Greek Cypriot side is to have any incentive to seek a realistic settlement.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 63 and 90, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Aytuğ PLÜMER
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus